



## **Topic Name: Places to Improve and Places to Grow**

### **Idea Title: 17-92 Improved**

Idea Detail: I drive 17-92 to Downtown Sanford every day. Some days I take Park Ave. because it looks better than 17-92. I think we could do a lot more to beautify this thoroughfare.

Idea Author: Debbie B

Number of Seconds 10

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: See my comment under Sun Rail Corridor | By Bill K

Comment 2: I love this idea. The 17-92 corridor from First St. to Lake Mary Blvd. is an embarrassment, and when I give directions to someone coming to visit, I always cringe at the thought of that being their first impression of the beautiful little town I am always bragging about. :( | By Tammy A

### **Idea Title: sun rail corridor**

Idea Detail: With the sun rail station just outside our downtown it will be critical to establish a corridor redevelopment vision plan for SR 46 between downtown and the commuter rail station. We have a short opportunity window before the typical strip development will line the corridor and not provide the type of development most appropriate for this transit area. Let's get a vision plan in place and establish some appropriate setback criteria and architectural guidelines.

Idea Author: Jurgen D

Number of Seconds 8

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Use Coastline Park for its original purpose as an Amtrak/SunRail station. A second commuter rail line through this location to the Sanford Airport would provide a direct link for airline passengers to the attractions south of Orlando. The city owns the rail corridor right of way from Coastline Park to Old Lake Mary Road where it joins the present rail line. The 17-92 CRA could fund the access on West Ninth Street from 17-92.



The benefits are:

1. Amtrak passenger service returned to Sanford.
2. Sanford Airport accessible by rail for minimal cost compared to other airports.
3. Revitalization of area around Coastline Park. New offices, commercial, etc on site of condemned housing projects.
4. Increased tax revenues.
5. Accessible from established neighborhoods by car, bicycle, walking.
6. Help 17-92 area potential in vicinity of Ninth Street. | By Bill K

Comment 2: This is all positives from negatives, seems no-brainer-ish! | By Mike S

Comment 3: As a HUGE proponent of rail travel I think these are all great ideas. I always thought it odd that you can only board Amtrak for the AutoRail and nothing else. Also, while I think SunRail is great for the region, I feel Sanford (and Deland also) cannot take full advantage of it's potential with its station where it will be in relation to the town center. While I am sure there will be some shuttle type solutions floated, the idea of another "leg" or "bus" takes away a lot of the convenience and romance of rail travel. | By Mike S

#### **Idea Title: Whole foods/ supermarket**

Idea Detail: Right behind suntrust there's a huge empty spot perfect for a supermarket- like a Winn Dixie or Publix or if u want to draw in people from lake Mary - a whole foods. Make the deal happen! It will bring in jobs, a walkable supermarket that is not scary like the one on Sanford ave. an organic supermarket would draw in people from all over.

Idea Author: Monica C

Number of Seconds 8

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: What I imagine Sanford can do is to designate (zone?) a certain area or areas in historic downtown where we want a grocery store to be located. Then when a chain or investor is interested in locating to the downtown they will know that here is an area where the town already has provided approval to build a store. | By Charlie H

Comment 2: The Fresh Market on St. Charles in the New Orleans Garden District is designed to blend with the existing architecture. There's also a Whole Foods in the Garden District on Magazine Street that re-purposed an old trolley barn for the store. Both stores feel great. The Whole Foods even has a parking garage within the old trolley barn. The old industrial area on 46 between 17-92 and the new Sunrail Station would be a great destination place for fresh,



organic, local foods in a historical architectural setting. The store would also have both indoor and outdoor dining for fresh food. It's a location that creates more of a walkable radius and can provide employment for lower income people South of 46. Downtown has a 1/2 radius:) These are a good examples of what can be done here in Sanford. | By Susan B

Comment 3: A Whole Foods or Trader Joe's would be perfect for Sanford because many Sanford residents I know (including our family) already shop at Whole Foods (in Winter Park). Definitely don't need another Publix in town, and the unhealthy food choices in the Winn Dixie stores don't go well with our Sanford vibe--which includes five electric car charging stations, the weekly Farmer's Market, and our gluten-free food places downtown. | By Bridget M

Comment 4: A Whole Foods or Trader Joe's would be perfect for Sanford but because many Sanford residents I know (including our family) already shop at Whole Foods (in Winter Park). Definitely don't need another Publix in town, and the unhealthy food choices in the Winn Dixie stores don't go well with our Sanford vibe--which includes five electric car charging stations, the weekly Farmer's Market, and our gluten-free food places downtown. | By Bridget M

Comment 5: I love the thought of a Whole Foods here in Sanford!  
| By Kathleen B

Comment 6: I think a Whole Foods or Fresh Market would be a great idea!!! There is the old Walgreen building on the corner of 17-92 and 1St Street. Perfect for a small Community Whole Foods, this would draw in people from Longwood, LakeMary, Casselberry.....it would be GREAT. The city should work on them. | By Ana Y

#### **Idea Title: An Expanded Marina**

Idea Detail: Consider an expanded Marina and court the boating community. Lake Monroe offers a beautiful spot for boating yet it seems you rarely see many boats on it. Why? It is that there is a limited number of slips available/affordable?

Idea Author: Jody H

Number of Seconds 7

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: I totally agree. We should utilize what we have to bring tourism here. The waterfront is such a huge draw but limited on what it has to offer. More piers, more boat slips, more restaurants etc. I know that if I was a new visitor the water would attract me. Look how well so many city's use their lakes or rivers as a hub. We are so close to success and have a



lot of the pieces already in place (Riverwalk,Downtown,SunRail). | By Heath P

Comment 2: There is a tremendous amount of waterfront across from Ft. Melon Park. Who has the right to develop it? | By Jody H

Comment 3: My husband and I would love to ride our boat to the Sanford marina. The downtown area is beautiful and there are a lot of restaurants that would cater to the boaters. It is a great idea that has a lot of potential. What is the next step to getting more boat slips built for boaters???? | By Jeanette B

Comment 4: It is out of the city's hands (thanks to politics, I'm afraid). The city should look at the approvals on the island and see how/if they can partner, manipulate, fill-in-your-action-word-here, to achieve a greater goal than what occupies the island now. | By Denny G

Comment 5: I agree we need to take advantage of our river front and Marina for out-of-area boaters. Boaters spend money (like Harley Riders). I feel that the city should work closely with the existing operators of Monroe Harbor Marina who have the experience and know how to achieve same. | By Don S

**Idea Title: Attract Business**

Idea Detail: Offer tax or other kinds of incentives to attract new business. Expedite all the hoops that must be jumped through by creating a single point of contact that will handle all the necessary applications, filings, etc. Cities in Texas do this. You apply for a City license, and they contact the State, County, and whatever other agencies play a part and coordinate those efforts on behalf of those trying to open new businesses.

Idea Author: Jody H

Number of Seconds 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Additional Public Parking in the Historic Downtown Area**

Idea Detail: I would like the city to prepare and implement additional paved public parking areas in downtown Sanford. We often find ourselves searching for a space, particularly on weekends or during events. I think this would attract more business and visitors.

Idea Author: Christina B



Number of Seconds 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Creating specially designated lots for workers. This would free up some of the existing free public lots for visitors. The lot at the corner of 1st and Park is a prime example. It is filled early in the morning and remains so during business hours. These are the cars of employees who work in that area. There is a large lot directly behind the County building located on that corner. If the County owns it, they should designate it as parking for their employees. If someone else owns it, perhaps it could be leased. | By Jody H

**Idea Title: Grants to help revitalize the "second stories" on 1st street**

Idea Detail: So many of the buildings lining 1st Street seem to be empty. Is there revitalization-type grant money available that could help building owners bring those spaces up to code so they could be rented?

Idea Author: Jody H

Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I wonder if the building owners are hoping for "demolition by decay," in order to get around any historical property designations. They might believe that they will increase the values of their properties by being able to significantly alter or remove the existing buildings. "Demolition by decay" is a favorite tool among commercial property owners. We need to find investors to purchase the buildings at whatever premium price, because they see the future value in maintaining the architectural vocabulary in Authentic Downtown Historic Sanford. The building owners might not see the the potential for higher income housing units. They might still believe that only low income transient people will want to rent the lofts. | By Susan B

Comment 2: The problem with many buildings on First Street are with the owners. Several of the larger buildings are owned by people unwilling to get them occupied. They have no incentives since they likely have no mortgages. It's a shame. And one owner gets revitalization grants only to continue to leave the thing vacant. The CRA has funds if the project is right. But you can't make owners do the right thing, they have to care. There is one building that has roof panels for their window covering. Can't make people have pride if it is not in them. Another shame. | By Denny G

**Idea Title: YMCA**



Idea Detail: The closest YMCA is 20 minutes away at the Lake Mary/Longwood border. I really think a YMCA in Sanford would be a popular option for families. There is no large sized family-friendly exercise facility in Sanford. A larger private gym (LA Fitness) could potentially move in, but it would not provide the community flavor that a YMCA would provide.

Idea Author: Carol S

Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: A choice to vote for Golf Cart use on the Transportation Survey!**

Idea Detail: Last week I asked why there was no survey choice for the use of Golf Carts on the mode of transportation survey in this "Imagine Sanford" website. The use of Golf Carts has been an ongoing discussion for many months among city leaders and citizens. It seems it would be a very good idea to add this choice for Sanford citizens to consider. I read the "Who's Listening?" section of the website. Is anyone listening, going to respond, or take action?

P.S. Anyone using Facebook can learn more at <http://www.facebook.com/GolfCartsForSanfordFL/> to read other city ordinances and get more info about this initiative!

Idea Author: Don S

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Removal of old piers**

Idea Detail: I would like to see the old rotted-out piers west of the marina removed to improve the beauty of our shoreline. The metal is rusty and will eventually fall into the lake, as will the wood. They are also a safety hazard; I have seen kids place a ladder or boards from the seawall to get onto the piers. I have also seen dead birds hanging by discarded fishing line from them. They serve no purpose and are ugly! It would be a great improvement!

Idea Author: Lawrence T



Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: I say keep them and restore. I would love to be able to walk out on them. Talk about a destination spot. I know it would cost a lot of money to do that though and tax pays wouldn't go for it but maybe getting some companies to sponsor it or even going one step further and having a cafe or restaurant be built at the end would REALLY make Sanford one step into the future. Tourism Tourism Tourism! | By Heath P

Comment 2: I'm with Reg. I love the old piers. I would like to see them rebuilt or combined with a new walking or fishing pier. It could be a pier to launch paddle boards, sail boards, kayaks and canoes. | By Susan B

Comment 3: I think the old steamboat piers are beautiful. They've been there since the 1880's and represent so much of Sanford's history. They are beautiful and make wonderful photographs, some I've posted on this website. | By Reg G

Comment 4: Reg, what is your company? | By Jody H

**Idea Title: Lee P. Moore Park Improvement**

Idea Detail: Lee P. Moore Park (located in the Hidden Lake community in Sanford) is extremely rundown, outdated, and unsafe. No lighting, uneven/unkept surfaces/facilities. This is a City of Sanford park--but one of the most run-down, neglected, and forgotten parks. We have a large neighborhood (hundreds of homes) with many, many children (and adults) who would love to play in this park but cannot because of its current condition. Let's make this park usable and safe again!

Idea Author: Bridget M

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I agree, Ft Melon Park is a great facility but at times can get over crowded. We should improve other parks in the area, and Lee P Moore is perfect as it is all the way on the other side of town. My kids played softball and baseball there years ago and there is a covered pavillion for picnics, this could be another great spot for Sanford families to reunite and have some fun. | By Debbie B



Comment 2: I agree with this idea. Lee P. Moore park is run down and unsafe. It should be so much more. The tennis courts need lighting. Nobody can play in the evenings! The raquetball courts are un-playable. A little improvement will go a long way and make them very nice (yes, they also need lighting because nobody can play in the evenings.) | By Rafael P

**Idea Title: Lets be the centerpiece of Seminole.**

Idea Detail: Sanford is the only true "downtown" that exists in Seminole County and we should be running with that! Everything else in the county is, for the most part, a hodge-podge of state/county roads and strip malls. We are only a few puzzle pieces away from being the crown jewel of the region. We already have excellent parking, attractive storefronts, beautiful streetscapes, and a REAL downtown (ahem, Colonial Towne Park). I believe a more focused effort toward this goal would pay dividends toward everything else that ails the area. We need a few more layers of activity in the downtown area to make this a destination where people from neighboring communities visit not for an hour, but several hours. Imagine: "Sanford: Downtown Seminole County"

Idea Author: Mike S

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Support Business through an advertising camapign**

Idea Detail: Develop ads that promote Sanford as the incredible place that it is and all that it has to offer! Create some interest and some buzz to get people to come check us out.

Idea Author: Jody H

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: RiverWalk park benches**

Idea Detail: Can we possibly get the remainder of the park benches on the RiverWalk painted like a few of them have been done? The unpainted ones really look tacky now. Anything to improve the waterfront!

Idea Author: Lawrence T





Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Making Sanford a "Social Media" Destination.**

Idea Detail: As you might know/or not.. I run a company called [www.SpiralDustMedia.com](http://www.SpiralDustMedia.com) here in Sanford and have made Sanford my home since 1980.

One thing that I would love to see is Sanford become is a "technology hub" and to be VERY social media friendly. I love that we have free wi-fi downtown and this is very out of the box type thinking but I've noticed that I don't see a lot of businesses utilizing this service. Wifi only seems to work in a limited area and we need it to expand other then just downtown. Not only is this a way for those in the city using it (residents) but becomes a tool for those visiting (tourist) to know about it. Sanford Airport is one of those areas. Also when people log on to Sanford's Wi-Fi there is a page that has links to those restaurants,shops,services etc to bring awareness. Look at it as external marketing.

Idea Author: Heath P

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: All these ideas are great (and already previously submitted)!**

Idea Detail: I am amazed that yet again the city has decided to spend tax payer monies on a "future visioning" of Sanford project and consultation firm! All the ideas submitted are great ideas, however this same type of study and polling was just conducted only a few years back. Myself and several residents participated. The same great ideas and suggestions where submitted then, and the time before then. The most recent study was conducted at great expense. What is it we are going to learn from this study that is new? My feeling is the only thing we will learn from this polling and project is what everyone already knows. I would like to know how much we are spending on this project? I would like to know what, if anything was accomplished from the last project? What if anything is going to be accomplished from this project? Why will this project be any different from the last? It is very upsetting to see tax dollars spent on these "future visioning" projects!

Idea Author: Don S



Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: To its credit, the Historic Center has maintained and improved itself by implementing some of the ideas DPZ proposed in 1996. | By Philip R

**Idea Title: downtown parking and transportation**

Idea Detail: three-story, open-air, parking garages on the (first) Palmetto and First St corner then (second) on the Park and First St corner. Each garage free; no parking fees. The garage should be built open with only steel guard rails; no walls; preventing too many homeless seeking shelter. Then, each garage should be supplied with two 4-seater golf carts that will carry people to any location in the historic district, if they so choose, for say, \$3. A phone call can hail the cart for a return to the garage. If a ticket and validation system is used for those customers who use the golf-cart services, the city can keep a tally of which types of businesses are most adding to the popularity of Sanford

Idea Author: nene E

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: Great idea! | By Heath P

Comment 2: The parking garages need to blend with the historical architecture in scale and finish. A strong, visible security force will deter vagrants. You are very right in mentioning that people need to feel SAFE when they come to downtown Sanford. Homeless shelter programs need to increase in the areas near the Sunrail and Lynx hubs to keep the homeless out of the downtown business district and to provide them with opportunities for transportation to services and employment. | By Susan B

Comment 3: The plans for the Second Street site are already in hand. | By Bill K

Comment 4: Put the parking garage on Second Street between Park and Magnolia. It would have stores and bank drive in on first floor. Elevator for parking garage would also serve upper floors of First Union Building which are now empty because of access problems.  
| By Bill K

Comment 5: Golfcarts would be a wonderful way to get around town and help with parking. |



By Judy S

**Idea Title: Convention Center**

Idea Detail: Perhaps the old Holiday Inn could be leveled and a convention center built there. There are other buildings on the marina that could be repurposed or leveled too and rebuilt. Of course this requires someone to invest in the project. If this was successful then I think many other things would be proposed on the waterfront.

Idea Author: moire W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: The scale of the Old Hotel and the marina works well with the architectural scale of downtown. If the hotel markets itself to a higher end boating, natural Florida and authentic tourism crowd, there's a world of smaller scale business opportunities they could bring to the marina that would feed the downtown businesses. A hotel doesn't have to be huge to make a giant financial impact. It just has to attract people with disposable income.

| By Susan B

Comment 2: Excellent thought but the time for that was some 15 years ago before the Lake Mary/Heathrow area developed their hotels/convention centers. I think it would be difficult to sell against what already exists 1 and 2 exits away. I do believe the new owners of that hotel are doing a decent renovation job and we will see what comes of that. | By Joe D

**Idea Title: check out Galveston pleasure pier.**

Idea Detail: I lived in Galveston Texas for some years. I even had a business there. They use to fight progress. I guess enough time passed and the old minds died. Check them out, engage them and ask them how they turned a similar town on water into what now rocks!

Idea Author: moire W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Do you have a Flickr account or some way to see them? | By Heath P



Comment 2: Have a Flickr account or a link to post your pics? Would love to see them. | By Heath P

Comment 3: I sent this past weekend in Galveston. Prior to hurricane Ike they were making progress. The downtown buildings are mostly repaired and painted. It's a fabulous collection of Victorian cast iron store fronts. They have a lot of festivals and Mardi Gras to drive business downtown, but the feel and businesses are very "Cruise ship port touristy." The second floors looked vacant. Many businesses were vacant. There were a few very nice new upscale hotels, designed in the proper historical vernacular, servicing the historic downtown area. I took a lot of photos if anyone wants to see them. There was no strong tie in with the main street to the port or to the local surrounding community. The area is still recovering.  
| By Susan B

**Idea Title: Expand marina**

Idea Detail: I attended the meeting last night and thought it was a great start. I have managed the marina for over 20 years, and was shocked when someone said the marina is full with a waiting list. I have plenty of slips small and large which are empty at this time! The only slips full at this time is in the water covered storage. I just wanted clarify this.

Idea Author: Brian V

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0